August 4.

The President, Dr. Ruschenberger, in the chair.

Six members present.

Dimorphism in the Leaves of Acer Pennsylvanicum, Lin.—Mr. Thomas Meehan exhibited some branches of Acer Pennsylvanicum, Lin. (*A. striatum*, Lamb), which had a remarkable system of dimorphic foliage, and which he believed had been generally overlooked.

The first pair of leaves developed after the bursting of the bud in the spring, were larger and more perfectly developed than any subsequent ones. In his specimens they were about six inches long and five wide, and strongly three-lobed towards the apex. The next pair, however, were usually lance linear, in the specimens exhibited about five inches long and less than two wide. Occasionally there was a tendency to the production of a pair of lobes, but usually the margins were entire or sparsely serulated. The third and subsequent pairs of leaves partook of the form of the first pair, though seldom so large. He had examined several hundred of young trees, and all had this singular dimorphic condition, the second pair in all cases having this peculiar narrow form.

It was worthy of remark that in plants with alternate leaves, the leaves with their axial buds were generally about the same size. In some few instances there were variations in the size, especially in the one-third arrangement of the leaves on the stem. In opposite leaved plants the rule was the other way; one bud or one leaf, either in the blade or petiole, being larger or longer than the other. In the maples this was especially the case. At times the petioles in some cases would be not more than half the length opposite. He had found this especial peculiarity, however, in no other species but *A. Pennsylvanicum* that he had been able to examine, which included most in common cultivation. It might be in *A. spicatum*, Lam., which he had not been able to examine this season, and which he supposed to be but a variety of *A. Pennsylvanicum*.

August 11.

The President, Dr. Ruschenberger, in the chair.

Seven members present.